

## Message Text

PAGE 01 NATO 05552 162153Z

62

ACTION EUR-10

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 NSC-10 NSCE-00 PM-03 CIAE-00

INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 L-02 SPC-01 SAJ-01 NEA-06 PRS-01

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FM USMISSION NATO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2730

S E C R E T USNATO 5552

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: XGDS, CAT 2

TAGS: ECON, XH, NATO

SUBJECT: NAC ITEM VI: SOVIET DEFENSE SPENDING

REF: STATE 226262

1. COUNCIL ON NOVEMBER 16 CONSIDERED DOCUMENT C-M(73)101, SOVIET DEFENSE SPENDING.

2. ACTING SECRETARY GENERAL (PANSA) EMPHASIZED TWO POINTS IN THE REPORT: SOVIET MISSILE TEST ACTIVITIES IN THE PAST THREE YEARS AT THEIR HIGHEST LEVEL; SOVIET ANNUAL DEFENSE EXPENDITURES APPARENTLY UNRELATED TO CHANGES IN EAST-WEST RELATIONS. HE THANKED THE U.S. FOR ITS IMPORTANT CONTRIBUTION TO THE REPORT.

3. DE STAERCKE (BELGIUM) ASKED IF THE ECONOMIC COMMITTEE COULD MAKE AN UNCLASSIFIED EXTRACT FROM THIS REPORT. HE OBSERVED THE CONTRAST BETWEEN OPENNESS OF WESTERN DEFENSE BUDGETS AND EXTRAPOLATIONS NECESSARY TO ESTIMATE SOVIET DEFENSE BUDGET. HE THOUGHT A WIDER DISSEMINATION OF SOME OF THE INFORMATION IN THE REPORT WOULD BE USEFUL IN MBFR CONTEXT.

SECRET

PAGE 02 NATO 05552 162153Z

4. RUMSFELD (US) NOTED THAT THE REPORT'S CONCLUSIONS HAVE IMPORTANT CONSEQUENCES FOR THE ALLIES. HE CALLED ATTENTION PARTICULARLY TO THE CONSISTENT PATTERN OF SOVIET DEFENSE SPENDING, AND TO INDICATIONS THAT THE SOVIETS SEE NO

CONTRADICTION BETWEEN A HIGH LEVEL OF DEFENSE SPENDING AND DETENTE. HE SAID THE MISSION WOULD SEE IF WASHINGTON COULD AGREE TO AND UNCLASSIFIED EXTRACT.

5. PECK (UK) TERMED AS SINISTER THE REPORT'S FINDING THAT SOVIET MILITARY R & D SPENDING IS AT AN ALL-TIME HIGH. HE WANTED THE ECONOMIC COMMITTEE TO CONTINUE ITS ACTIVITY ON SOVIET DEFENSE SPENDING, AND SAID HE WOULD CHECK WITH LONDON ABOUT POSSIBLE "SANITIZATION" OF THE REPORT FOR WIDER USE.

6. PANSA OBSERVED THAT AN UNCLASSIFIED REPORT WOULD BE MOST USEFUL IF AVAILABLE AT THE DPC MINISTERIAL, WHEN NUMEROUS JOURNALISTS WILL BE HERE.

7. ACTION REQUESTED: MISSION WOULD APPRECIATE, IF POSSIBLE, REVISIONS OF THE REPORT TO MAKE IT UNCLASSIFIED.  
RUMSFELD

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<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

## Message Attributes

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